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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/065,220	09/26/2002	Raj Kumar Jain	2000P19153US	9420
31366	7590	03/24/2004	EXAMINER	
HORIZON IP PTE LTD 166 Kallang Way 6th Floor SINGAPORE 349249, SINGAPORE			LE, THONG QUOC	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2818	
DATE MAILED: 03/24/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/065,220	JAIN, RAJ KUMAR	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Thong Q. Le	2818	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 2,3,6,7,9-23 and 25-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 2,3,6,7,9-16 and 25-33 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 17-23 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some *
 - c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Amendment filed on August 30, 1999 has been entered.
2. Claims 2-3, 6-7, 9-23, 25-33 are presented for examination.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 2-3, 6-7, 9-16, 25-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Wang et al. (Pub. U.S. Patent No. 2202/0194558).

Regarding claim 2, Wang et al. disclose an integrated circuit (Figure 1) comprising:

A plurality of memory banks (102);

A plurality of comparator unit (107) being coupled to a memory bank for comparing a test pattern written to the memory bank against data read from the memory bank (Figure 1); and

A BIST control unit (101) coupled to the plurality of comparator units for testing the plurality of memory banks simultaneously (Figure 1), the BIST control unit provides

test control signals (113, 115, 118, 117) and test pattern to the comparator units, wherein the test control signals comprises of memory words to be tested (ABSTRACT).

Regarding claims 3, 6-7, 9-16, 25-33, Wang et al. discloses wherein the memory banks occupy a common address space and BIST control unit generates address (Figure 1, 105) in the common address space (Figures 4A-B), and the comparator units stores faulty addresses (ABSTRACT), and the BIST control unit receives test results from the comparator units (Figure 1, output from 107 to 104), and the test results comprises address of faulty words and locations of faulty bits within the faulty words (ABSTRACT), and a plurality of comparator units , wherein at least one comparator is associated with one memory banks, the plurality of comparators facilitate parallel testing of the memory banks simultaneously (Figure 1, Column 10, claim 12).

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 17-23 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 17-23 include allowable subject matter since the prior art made of record and considered pertinent to the applicant's disclosure does not teach or suggest the claimed limitations. Wang et al. (Pub. U.S. Patent No. 2002/0194558), and others, does not teach the claimed invention having the comparator unit comprises a test control unit and a testing circuit, and the test control unit is coupled to an access control circuit and a refresh control unit.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thong Q. Le whose telephone number is 571-272-1783. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-5:00pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David C. Nelms can be reached on 571-272-1787. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Thong Q. Le
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2818

THONG LE
PRIMARY EXAMINER